IN THE CLAIMS

This is a complete and current listing of the claims, marked with status identifiers in parentheses. The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

1. (Previously Presented) A connecting bar for connection of electrical components of electrical appliances and devices to an external circuit comprising:

an outer contour for accommodation through a window opening in a wall of the appliances or devices, wherein the connecting bar is hollow, with a similar outer cross section to other connecting bars, with a cross-sectional surface of a remaining wall thickness being adapted to a respective nominal current.

2. (Previously Presented) The connecting bar as claimed in claim 1, wherein the connecting bar includes only one cavity.

3. (Previously Presented) The connecting bar as claimed in claim 1, wherein the connecting bar includes a plurality of cavities.

4. (Previously Presented) The connecting bar as claimed in claim 1, wherein the connecting bar includes at least one bore for fastening purposes.

5. (Previously Presented) The connecting bar as claimed in claim 4, wherein the at least one bore includes a thread.

6. (Previously Presented) The connecting bar as claimed in claim 4, wherein the connecting bar includes at least two bores and wherein a bore in a connecting bar on an upper side and a bore on an underside are arranged in a common axis.

7. (Previously Presented) The connecting bar as claimed in claim 4, wherein the connecting bar includes at least two bores, and wherein a bore in a connecting bar on an upper side and a bore on an underside are arranged offset with respect to one another.

8. (Previously Presented) The connecting bar as claimed in claim 1, wherein the connecting bar includes a plurality of cavities, between which, at least one suitable web is included for increasing strength.

9. (Previously Presented) The connecting bar as claimed in claim 4, wherein the at least one bore in the connecting bar is arranged in the region of a cavity.

10. (Previously Presented) The connecting bar as claimed in claim 4, wherein the at least one bore in the connecting bar is arranged in a web.

11. (Previously Presented) The connecting bar as claimed in claim 1, including at least one stop for axial fixing.

12. (Previously Presented) The connecting bar as claimed in claim 1, wherein the cavity is arranged transversely with respect to a longitudinal extent of the connecting bar and is open on both sides.

13. (Cancelled)

14. (Original) The connecting bar as claimed in claim 1, including a plurality of bores for fastening purposes.

15. (Original) The connecting bar as claimed in claim 14, wherein each of the plurality of bores includes a thread.

16. (Original) The connecting bar of claim 3, including a plurality of webs, each between cavities, for increasing strength.

17. (Original) The connecting bar as claimed in claim 8, wherein the at least one bore in the connecting bar is arranged in the region of a cavity.

18. (Original) The connecting bar as claimed in claim 8, wherein the at least one bore in the connecting bar is arranged in a web.

19. (Original) The connecting bar as claimed in claim 1, including a plurality of stops for axial fixing.

20. (New) A connecting bar for electrically connecting an electrical component and an external circuit, comprising:

an outer contour of the connecting bar, the outer contour being shaped irrespective of a nominal electrical current to be passed; and

a hollow inner contour of the connecting bar, wherein a thickness of a cross-sectional surface of the connecting bar relates to the nominal current to be passed.

21. (New) A connecting bar for passing current between at least one electrical component of an electrical appliance or device and an external circuit, comprising:

an outer contour of the connecting bar for accommodation through a window opening in a wall of the appliance or device, the outer contour being of a shape set irrespective of current to be passed; and

a hollow inner contour of the connecting bar, wherein a cross-sectional surface of a thickness of the connecting bar is set relative to the current to be passed.